



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Joe DiLaura 317-232-3396

New Indiana county data available online

INDIANAPOLIS (August 31, 2007) -- The state's labor market information Web site, *Hoosiers by the Numbers*, now has new county information and data available online. The *County Highlights* section of the department's web site contains a wide variety of demographic and other information for each of Indiana's 92 counties.

This new feature was developed in response to a growing demand for more detailed county-level information for a variety of economic and workforce statistics including population, education, commuting, labor force, industry, income, and firm size trends. The county highlights provide a snapshot of critical population and workforce statistics for each of Indiana's 92 counties, 11 Economic Growth Regions, and the State of Indiana.

To access the new service, go to <http://www.hoosierdata.in.gov/highlights>

The data on the web site is used by economic development officials, researchers, policy-makers and other officials in a wide variety of economic development initiatives and community investment decisions.

"Good information and intelligence at the local and regional level drives good decision-making in our communities," said Andrew Penca, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. "We hope that this new service will become an invaluable tool for economic and workforce development leaders and others throughout the state."

The *County Highlights* are available in easy-to-use web format but are also printable and can be electronically transmitted.

The new data service continues a series of upgrades of the content and usability of the labor market information data the department regularly compiles on Indiana's workforce. The project is part of the Daniels administration's state data initiative, *Information for Indiana*, and is in response to a report issued in 2005 that found major shortcomings in

the state's compilation of data, its usefulness and usability, and its relationship to effective policymaking.

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development is charged with continually improving the Hoosier workforce by assisting companies to create new jobs and improve employee skills. The agency offers a variety of training and educational grants, partners with Indiana's 26 WorkOne Centers, administers the unemployment insurance system, provides labor market information, assists employers with preparing workers for layoffs and closures, and operates the statewide job placement service. For more information on DWD and its programs, call 888-465-4616 or visit the web site at www.workforce.IN.gov.